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From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Mon 3/16/2015 7:15:58 PM
Subject: EPA Press Release: Southern Nevada Water Authority Encourages Consumers to Chase
Water Waste This Week

Dear Colleagues:

The following press release is being issued today by the EPA Region IX press office. If you have questions or need any additional information, please give me a call.

Regards,

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison
Telephone: 415.947.4256

CONTACT:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2015

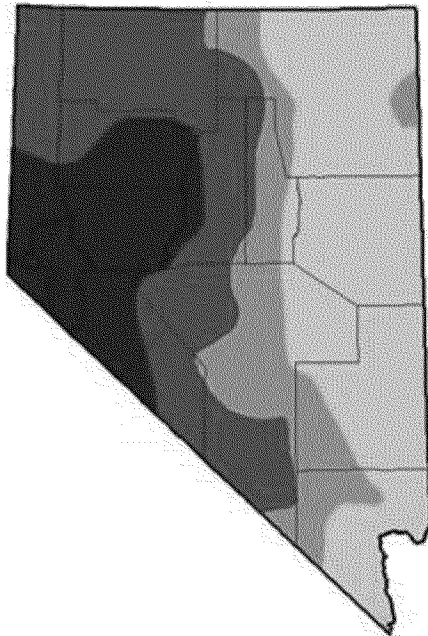
Southern Nevada Water Authority Encourages Consumers to Chase Water Waste This Week

WaterSense® Partners Celebrate Fix a Leak Week March 16-22

SAN FRANCISCO—The average American family could be wasting more than 10,000 gallons of water each year due to easy-to-fix household leaks, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) WaterSense program. That amount of water could increase a water bill by as much as 10 percent while wasting precious resources. That's why EPA is encouraging consumers to participate in WaterSense's seventh annual Fix a Leak Week, March 16 through 22, 2015, by finding and fixing leaks around the home.

If every household in Nevada lost as much as 10,000 gallons of water per year to leaks, residents would be, cumulatively, spending more than \$111 million dollars on water lost to easily detectable and fixable leaks. The communities served by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) have endured drought for over a decade. During this time, the level of Nevada's Lake Mead has dropped more than 100 feet. According to the U.S. drought monitor's [March 3rd report](#), over 99% of Nevada is experiencing drought conditions.

U.S. Drought Monitor Nevada



March 3, 2015

(Released Thursday, Mar. 5, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.93	63.94	47.96	16.38
Last Week 2540015	0.00	100.00	99.93	63.94	47.96	16.38
3 Months Ago 1300014	0.00	100.00	97.04	66.25	49.38	11.89
Start of Calendar Year 1209014	0.00	100.00	96.96	66.25	48.38	11.89
Start of Water Year 0500014	0.00	100.00	97.04	66.89	49.38	11.89
One Year Ago 3400014	0.00	100.00	99.32	72.95	33.48	5.37

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
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Western Regional Climate Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

“Conserving Nevada’s water resources is everyone’s responsibility,” said Jared Blumenfeld, EPA’s Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. “Household leaks in Nevada may account for nearly 12 billion gallons of water wasted each year.”

By following three simple steps—check, twist, and replace—consumers can save water and make their homes more efficient.

Here’s how to get started finding and fixing leaks:

Check: Look at your water meter, usually located outside your house, before and after a two-hour period of no water use. If the number has changed, there is likely a leak, which could be as simple to fix as replacing a worn rubber flapper in the toilet tank.

Twist: Fix dripping pipes, fixtures, or hoses by using a wrench to twist and tighten the

connections. If needed, pipe tape can help seal shower fixtures or hose connections. Remind everyone in the house to turn faucets and showers off tightly, and check washers and valves for persistent drips.

Replace: For old or inefficient fixtures that are not easily repaired, look for WaterSense labeled models to replace them. These water- and money-saving high-performing products are independently certified to use at least 20 percent less water and perform well. You can find the label on the product packaging or the website of your favorite plumbing brand and they are available in a variety of styles and prices at home improvement stores.

To help consumers find and fix leaks, the SNWA is promoting Fix A Leak Week through web and social media, radio announcements, and in the agency's newsletters.

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak to learn more about finding and fixing leaks. The WaterSense Facebook page at www.facebook.com/EPAWatersense also has a map to help you find Fix a Leak Week events in your community.

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

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